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THE GAVEL

The Student Newspaper of The Cleveland State University College of Law • Cleveland, Ohio
Volume 20 • Special Edition • No. 17 • April 24, 1972

The Press is a sort of wild animal in our midst—restless, gigantic, always seeking new ways to use its strength. . . The sovereign press for the most part acknowledges accountability to no one except its own owners & publishers.”
—Nieman

GAVEL ENTERS COMPETITION

LAW STUDENT DIVISION OF THE
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dear Sir:

It is with a great deal of pride and enthusiasm that we submit our law school newspaper, *The Gavel*, for consideration in the AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION LAW STUDENT DIVISION MOST OUTSTANDING NEWSPAPER contest, under class B. In this special edition of *The Gavel*, we will present a report containing the information that you have requested, followed by four sets of the issues that the staff and editors have published this academic year. The small parenthetical numbers next to the headlines correspond to your list of requested information.

We are prefacing the required information to emphasize that the editors have particularly focused on the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association activities (in addition to student bar, local bar, alumni and newsworthy events) due to our consciousness of the importance of the Law Student Division. Furthermore, it is our belief that, to make the Law Student Division work, the students must be continually exposed to it. We feel complimented that our Student Bar Association has attributed the increase in ABA-LSD membership at the law school to our extensive coverage.

Your interest and consideration in keeping our school informed through your news releases is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Smith
Cleveland State Univ.
Student Bar Ass'n
President

Craig W. Christensen
Cleveland State Univ.
College of Law
Dean

Paul T Kirner
Editor-in-Chief
The Gavel

HISTORY OF THE GAVEL (2)

The publishing history of *the Gavel* has been a sporadic one. Initially the newspaper was a mimeograph news release that was published once each quarter. The evolutionary changes



Top (l to r) 1969, 1966, 1952, 1969.
Bottom (l to r) 1954, 1957, 1962 Issues
from past Gavels.

FOUNDED IN 1952 (1)

The Gavel, founded with the commencement of the 1952-1953 academic year of the then Cleveland-Marshall School of Law, has been a part of our institution's tradition since that time.

began to take place in 1960. At that time *the Gavel* was basically an Alumni News Letter. In 1964, *the Gavel* turned from an alumni periodical to a monthly news magazine. Also in 1964, *the Gavel* received meritorious recognition from the old American Law Student Association. Finally, in 1966 *the Gavel* evolved into a monthly newspaper.

Last year *the Gavel* increased its publication from 4,000 to 5,000 readers. We also increased the length of our publication.

Today our distinguished readership includes 3,000 Cleveland State University alumni, 500 city, county, state, and federal legislators, 250 members of our judiciary at all levels, and 250 subscribers. The remaining 1000 copies are distributed to the Cleveland State University administration and law students.

This year we have changed from the four page monthly publication to a six or eight page newspaper that is published twice a month. Notable changes in the newspaper can be read in the article, "The Gavel's Emphasis—Reporting News not History", on this page.

GAVEL'S EMPHASIS

REPORTING NEWS NOT HISTORY (9)

There have been many changes in *The Gavel* from last year. Still our major commitment has not changed. That commitment is service to the law school, the university and the legal community.

A major achievement of *The Gavel* staff for the 1971-1972 academic year was to shorten reporting, printing, and distribution time, thus providing news and information to its readership while such news was still timely and the subject of discussion. Another objective of the staff was to present a newspaper in cogent and terse copy to provide the readership with a speedy yet accurate review of the events and happenings regarding the institution, the legal profession and the community.

In an effort to present the news as it happens, it was necessary to resolve the apparent increased cost resulting from an increase in issues printed. The method of printing used previously, linotype, was debilitating with respect to the necessary lead time, was restrictive as to its amenability toward graphics, and had a prohibitive effect cost-wise on imaginative attempts at layout.

We are proud to report that the above objections have been substantially corrected during the current year in that:

- 1.) The eighteen issues published to

date represent a three-fold increase over productivity in the 1970-1971 academic year; plus,

- 2.) A search for and retention of a new publishing house resulted in an average per issue cost decrease of seven hundred dollars (\$700); plus,

- 3.) The new method of printing, offset, reduced lead time from four weeks to a matter of days, and increased copy flexibility tenfold; plus

- 4.) The utilization of this new publishing house has allowed us to come out with speedy "In-House" issues of *The Gavel*, allowing us to print enough copies for the law school without the additional cost of sending the newspaper to the other 4,000 readers. When news had a greater scope than just the local issues of the law school, the new printers provided us with a printing schedule that kept the news current for all 5,000 readers.

The editors have insisted upon coverage of the following areas in equal proportions where possible:

- 1.) The Student Bar Association activities,
- 2.) Law student major activities in the local bar associations,
- 3.) ABA Law Student Division activities,
- 4.) Law student involvement in community action,
- 5.) Main campus activities,
- 6.) Alumni affairs.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFF (4)

The staff consists only of students who have shown an interest in and have contributed to the newspaper. Our policy is to have a flexible staff membership that is open to every student at the law school. The only incentive we can offer a staff member is a by-line and a place on the masthead for his contributions to *The Gavel*.

STAFF

There are fifteen staff members that have contributed to *the Gavel* at least four articles and have worked with the editors this year. Students who have been listed on the masthead as Staff have shown the interest that merits the title of a Staff Member.

ASSISTANT EDITOR

For the first time in the history of the publication, the Editor-in-Chief and the Executive Editor have been assisted by a staff member who is given the title of Issue Assistant Editor. In promoting aspiring staff members to the editorial position, we

are able to determine who is best suited for the editorial positions for next year. This process allows the staff member the opportunity to understand and appreciate the work involved in publishing a newspaper. Hopefully he or she will also feel the editors' great sense of responsibility. At the years end we will have a better staff and a greater number of experienced candidates for the editorial positions.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The Executive Editor is the conduit between the Editor-in-Chief and the Staff. This editor assigns articles to the student bar staff writer, the ABA-LSD staff writer, the Law Review staff writer and so on.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Editor-in-Chief oversees the entire operation of the newspaper. He alone is responsible for the publication. This editor serves in various detailed capacities as an assignor, liaison with the printer and feature writer.

BUDGET FOR 1971-1972⁽⁵⁾

Since our merger with The Cleveland State University in June, 1969 we receive a budget from the University through the Student Bar Association and the Student Publications Committee at CSU's main campus. The student activities fee of \$50.00 per student is allocated to the different organizations on the basis of the student organization's position in the university. With our readership and long tradition, *The Gavel* has received \$10,500 for the year of 1971-1972.

Below is a copy of the adjusted budget for 1971-1972 that has been approved.

NEW PRINTER SAVES GAVEL \$12,000 IN '72⁽⁸⁾

We now use the off-set printing process. We find it less expensive than the linotype process previously used.

GAVEL ADJUSTED BUDGET 1971-1972

FEE WAIVERS

Tuition waiver for
Editor-in-Chief \$ 1,330.00

2-3rds tuition for
Executive Editor 880.00

OFFICE SUPPLIES 200.00

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

ABA-LSD Conference
New York
LSCRC Conference
Washington D.C. 300.00

IN-STATE TRAVEL

Sixth circuit activities
and competitions 100.00

NEWSPAPER, PERIODICALS 25.00

DUPLICATING SERVICE 30.00

PHOTOGRAPHY 100.00

ADDRESSOGRAPH 1,000.00

PRINTING 6,000.00

TELEPHONE 135.00

POSTAGE 500.00

TOTAL \$10,500.00

STAFF FACILITIES⁽⁶⁾

The staff members are supplied with a room, several desks and sundry material. The editors' office is equipped with the supplies necessary for lay-out and paste-up. The office is also equipped with a phone, two desks, two file cabinets and miscellaneous materials.



The Gavel subscribes to over 50 periodicals and newspapers in Canada and the United States. The editors read and study these publications so that we may learn from them. We encourage all staff members to do the same. In order to aid ourselves in this study we have set up several shelves in which these

periodicals are displayed. We often find that many of the problems facing our law school are not at all unique, but are shared by other law schools from coast to coast.

We have also read lengthy articles dealing with contemporary legal questions. The Cleveland State University College of Law is proud of its nationally renowned law review. The law review and specialized law school publications have dealt with the very issue exposed in many legal school newspapers. It is our belief that extended features on such topics as environmental crisis, student unrest, and urban law properly belong in a law review. It is the function of the law school newspaper to cover the activities of law students involved in such projects, and specialized reviews deal with these subjects more in depth. This has been the philosophy of *The Gavel*...the emphasis is on the current news which is expanded upon with an occasional feature. Our paper has served as a forum for all students and, according to our Student Bar Association, has been the "moving force" in changing a number of things at the law school.

GAVEL TO BE

BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION⁽³⁾

Prior to this year the frequency of publication was once a month during the academic year. Generally only eight issues were published annually.

This year *The Gavel's* policy has been to publish timely and salient articles for our entire readership. The staff compiles the news for publication that is considered by the editors to be of interest to the

majority of our 4,000 readers who receive *The Gavel* by mail and the 1,000 readers within the university.

The Gavel is therefore published when we believe there is sufficient news so that our readership will be informed of the CURRENT news. Though we have published twice in one week, we generally average out to an issue every two weeks.

PROF. MOODY

GAVEL ADVISOR⁽⁷⁾



LIZABETH ANN MOODY

Due to university rules and regulations a faculty advisor is a necessary criteria for the existence of any campus organization. In our case, Professor Moody serves as a necessary and welcome advisor. Liz Moody has aided us on many occasions and has offered assistance as well as encouragement throughout the year.

For her service, we would like to state herein that we, the editors and the staff of *The Gavel*, greatly appreciate her assistance.

LAW SCHOOL ENROLLMENT⁽¹¹⁾

The Cleveland State University College of Law enrollment as of February 1, 1972 is approximately 773.

COVERAGE OF ALL THE NEWS⁽¹⁰⁾

The extent to which the newspaper has been able to cover the activities of the Student Bar Association, the ABA Law Student Division, and the state and local bar associations has been greatly enhanced by a break with past practices of fixed publication dates. *The Gavel* tabloid has successfully graduated from reporting history to reporting news.

The editorial columns of *The Gavel* have contained comments about the operation of the Student Bar Association examination philosophy, needed state legislation, faculty committees, the state bar examination, faculty tenure, grading and honor systems, student loans, and examination schedules.

The Gavel has also covered, such topics as, the ABA-LSD essay contests, the Cleveland Bar Association clinical education program, the monthly luncheon seminars of the Cleveland Bar Association, the activities of the Cleveland chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, a front page plea to the legal profession to join with the Greater Cleveland United Torch Drive, the continuing legal

education programs of the Cleveland Bar, the New York forum and the Houston study of the American Law Institute—American Bar Association Joint Committee on Continuing Legal Education, the proposed merger of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and the Cleveland Bar, the Cuyahoga Bar Association's appointment of a CSU student to the Board of Trustees, and many ABA-LSD news events.

Pre-election coverage of the SBA candidates and their platforms contributed to a more vigorous and participatory campaign. Our coverage also contributed to a more involved post-election electorate. Again this May, we will cover the election of the new SBA officers and senators for the 1972-1973 school year.

The Gavel is proud of our coverage of Law Student Division activities. Moreover, *The Gavel* is sent to all the schools in the sixth circuit to inform circuit schools on Law Student Division activities within the circuit. Law student involvement in state and local bar association activities has been noted in several editions along with many articles of which our own Student Bar Association is involved.



THE
GAVEL



Cleveland State University

VOLUME 20

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Room 416

SPECIAL EDITION

Paul T Kirner, Editor-in-Chief
Marvin E. Sable, Executive Editor
(1971-March, 1972)

Lila Daum, Executive Editor
(From March 1972)

Elliott P. Geller, Assistant Editor
STAFF

Larry Benjamin, David Ross Jones, James Gordon Joseph
Arthur L. Kraut, Barry Laine, J. Michael Monteleone,
Gary Pompan, Alan Jay Rom, George Schroeck,
Bob Silver, Michael Smith

Special Assistant to the Editors: Coletta McCalvey

The views expressed herein are those of the newspaper or its by-lined reporters and contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the student body, administration, or faculty of the College of Law or The Cleveland State University unless otherwise specifically stated.